

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

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Please cancel, amend, and add new claims as follows:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a diesel engine, and/or a vehicle which is driven by a diesel engine, ~~which said method involves~~ comprising introducing into a combustion chamber of the engine a diesel fuel composition incorporating a Fischer-Tropsch derived gas oil, ~~and optionally also a detergent, for the purpose of thereby~~ reducing subsequent combustion related deposits in the engine and/or removing previously incurred combustion related deposits in the engine.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein the diesel fuel composition further comprises a detergent ~~Use of a Fischer-Tropsch derived gas oil, and/or of a fuel composition containing a Fischer-Tropsch derived gas oil, to remove combustion related deposits from a diesel engine.~~

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A method for assessing the performance of a candidate diesel fuel composition, comprising the steps of:

- 1) measuring the level of combustion related deposits in a diesel engine running on a standard diesel fuel composition, which standard fuel composition contains no, or less than 1% w/w of, Fischer-Tropsch derived gas oils;
- 2) subjecting the engine to a first test cycle running on the standard fuel composition;
- 3) measuring the level of combustion related deposits in the engine after the first test cycle;

- 4) calculating the increase in deposits during the first test cycle;
 - 5) subjecting the engine to a second test cycle running on the candidate diesel fuel composition;
 - 6) measuring the level of combustion related deposits in the engine after the second test cycle;
 - 7) calculating the increase in deposits, if any, ~~[[if any]]~~ during the second test cycle; and
 - 8) if applicable, calculating the extent of removal of deposits during the second test cycle.
8. (Currently Amended) A diesel fuel composition which, when used as the candidate fuel composition in ~~a method according to~~ the method of claim 7, leads to removal of at least 5% of the combustion related deposits accumulated in the engine prior to step 5 of the test, when the duration of the second test cycle is the same as or less than that of the first test cycle.
9. (Currently Amended) A diesel fuel composition ~~which includes~~ comprising a major proportion of a fuel or fuel blend for an internal combustion engine of the compression ignition type, wherein the fuel or fuel blend comprises at least 30% w/w of a Fischer-Tropsch derived gas oil.
10. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The diesel fuel composition ~~according to~~ of claim 9~~[[,]]~~ ~~additionally~~ further comprising a detergent.
11. (New) The diesel fuel composition of claim 9 wherein the amount of the Fischer-Tropsch derived gas oil used in the fuel composition is 10% w/w or greater